

ASTRONOMY SECTION

THE ASTRONOMY SECTION will meet at 8 p. m., Wednesday, May 26, in the Student Lecture Room. Leon E. Salanave, who will be in charge, will show a number of short films on astronomical subjects. The pictures, which will show solar eruptions, planetary motions, eclipses of the sun and moon, and other phenomena, are from the Academy film library and Pic du Midi, the French solar observatory in the Pyrenees.

FOR YOUR CALENDAR

THE JUNE MEETING will be held at 8 p. m., Wednesday, June 9, in Morrison Auditorium. Dr. R. A. Stirton, chairman, Department of Paleontology, University of California, will show slides and describe "Digging Down Under."

FELLOWS NAMED

THE COUNCIL at its meeting of April 8 elected the following Academy members as Fellows of the Academy: Mrs. Junea W. Kelly of Alameda, Mrs. Georgios Kosmopolis of Santa Barbara, and Mr. Henry Trost of San Francisco. Mrs. Kelly was also elected as the Academy's official delegate to the Eleventh International Ornithological Congress, to be held in Basel, Switzerland, May 29 to June 5, 1954.

NEW MEMBERS

The following members were elected by the Council at its meeting of April 8, 1954:

REGULAR MEMBERSHIP

Mrs. Harry B. Allen
Mr. Andrew E. Neuenburg
Mr. Arthur R. Oswald
Mr. M. Edward Peck
Mr. George W. Tudhope
Mr. Elwood C. Zimmerman

STUDENT MEMBERSHIP

Paul Gregory
Larry Tencer
Davis Leebhoff

FAMILY MEMBERSHIP

Mr. Mills Calahan
Mr. Wilson E. Cline
Mrs. Richard Y. Dakin
Mr. and Mrs. Raymond H. Thayer
Mr. and Mrs. Frank N. Todd
Mr. and Mrs. Charles N. Whitehead

CONTRIBUTING MEMBERSHIP

Mr. and Mrs. Robert H. Chaussee

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May Announcement

THE REGULAR MAY MEETING will be held at 8:15 p. m., Wednesday, May 19, in Morrison Auditorium. Dean Hobbs Blanchard, world-wide explorer, scientist, and photographer, will present a color film:

"SAND, SNOW AND HEAD HUNTERS"

Blanchard's film portrays, as he calls it, "the three worlds" of Ecuador, featured by desert, ice, and steaming jungles. Along the coastal desert fish swarm in the surf in such great numbers that natives obtain their meals merely by scooping a basket into the waves. In contrast to this abundance, drought compels the natives to treasure barrels of water drawn by plodding donkeys. Behind the coast in this small country tower snow-crowned Andean peaks.

With Blanchard and his wife, you travel into rain forests of vivid green to the land of the Jivaro Indians, notorious for their practice of shrinking human heads. Entering Jivaro houses you see the various wives of the polygamous natives making pottery, preparing chicha, a kind of beer, and cultivating gardens with knives. The men hunt with blowpipes in the forests, and construct shelters for protection against vampire bats.

Dean Blanchard has led a story-book life as an explorer. On four occasions he has visited the headwaters of the Amazon. Following an airplane mishap in the jungles of Peru, Blanchard managed to cross two ranges of the Andes on foot and by dugout. In the Antarctic his boat failed to break through ice floes, compelling him to journey hundreds of miles overland.

Since carrying out his first scientific expedition with the University of California in 1931, Blanchard has traveled widely in the Orient, South Seas, and Australia. On Japanese sampans, he explored the Hawaiian reefs, assembling a remarkable collection of tropical fish for museum purposes. To photograph the major archeological treasures of Mexico, he and his wife spent twelve months trekking through the jungles from Veracruz to Yucatan.

During his years of research in Europe, Blanchard traveled in practically every country on that continent. Shortly before the Italian-Abyssinian conflict, he trekked two thousand miles by muleback in Ethiopia, in company with Dr. Thomas Lambie, the celebrated medical-missionary and physician to Haile Selassie. He has hiked along the Tibetan frontier, and made friends of fanatical Mohammedan tribesmen in Afghanistan.

And he got his start in natural history, Blanchard says, through the California Academy of Sciences. Dr. Barton Evermann, long-time director of the Academy, helped him to obtain his first collecting permit.

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GEORGE HALEY

1870-1954

THE DEATH of Dr. George Haley on April 1, 1954, brought to its close a long, cheerful, adventurous, and useful life.

He was born in Brownfield, Maine, November 28, 1870, graduated from Fryeburg Academy in 1891, obtained a degree of bachelor of science from the University of Maine in 1911, and that of doctor of philosophy from the University of San Francisco in 1928. These are but landmarks in a busy life devoted to study, teaching, and exploration in far places of the earth.

Dr. Haley spent a number of years in Japan, where he taught English and mathematics at the Japanese Naval Academy. He also spent several years on St. Paul's Island in the Pribilofs, where he and his wife were both teachers in a school for the natives maintained under the auspices of the U. S. Bureau of Fisheries. While here he became interested in the botany of northern latitudes and subsequently made expeditions to Alaska, northern Japan, Labrador, Iceland, Norway, and Spitsbergen exploring for plants. Many of his specimens are in the herbarium of the California Academy of Sciences, of which he was a member for over thirty years, and which sponsored several of his expeditions.



Dr. Haley with student members of the Academy.

In 1921 he became head of the department of biology of St. Ignatius College, later the University of San Francisco, which post he held until his retirement in 1941. Following his retirement he became counselor to the Student Section of the Academy.

Dr. Haley was a born naturalist. An early acquaintance, Dr. Whitman G. Stickney, writes: "As youngsters George and I attended the same ungraded school in Brownfield, Maine . . . Back in those early days he was already laying the foundation for his life work . . . I remember vividly the nights spent at the Haley homestead. His room was crowded with trophies of field and woods, with many screened boxes in which butterflies and moths were hatching."

He was also a born teacher whose influence extended far beyond the classroom. He was vastly informed and had an infallible memory, and everywhere he went he imparted information to young and old, with a contagious enthusiasm that inspired the listener with something of Dr. Haley's own eager interest in the world about him.

His last request was that his ashes be buried beside his wife's grave on St. Paul's Island.

EXPEDITION TO SWEDEN

A TWO-MAN expedition from the Academy will observe the June 30 total eclipse of the sun from a vantage point in Sweden. The project will be carried out by Leon E. Salanave and C. P. Butler. Salanave, who will be the expedition astronomer, is a Morrison Planetarium lecturer and leader of the Academy's Astronomy Section. Butler is a physicist at the Naval Radiological Defense Laboratory in San Francisco.

The two will leave here by air about June 5. Their equipment, valued at 12,000 dollars and weighing about a ton, left by ship on April 24.

Salanave and Butler will set up camp on South Köster Island, where they will be joined by a cooperating astronomer from Lund Observatory, Dr. Folke Nettelblad. The three will study the somewhat mysterious shadow bands that ripple across all light-colored surfaces on the ground as the total phase of an eclipse approaches.

For his part in the investigation, Salanave, with the help of Fred C. Lehman of the Academy's staff, reconditioned the historic George Davidson telescope. In Sweden the 6½-inch refractor will be fitted with special photoelectric equipment developed by Dr. Nettelblad. Salanave and the Swedish scientist will share precious moments at the telescope.

Butler, who is a specialist on solar radiation measurements, will set up photoelectric cells in a geometric pattern to get an accurate timing of the speed of the shadow bands. Butler and Salanave hope to confirm the current belief that the shadow bands are caused by cylindrical lenses formed in our atmosphere which project the thin crescent of sunlight which is passing by the moon. Or if that theory doesn't prove out, perhaps they can find a better answer. Such a study has never been undertaken before on such an elaborate scale.

The Academy expedition is being financed by private subscription and by a grant from the American Association for the Advancement of Science.